

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action dated July 31, 2007.

Claim 1 stands rejected under Section 102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by JP '074.

This rejection is respectfully traversed for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1 requires that “pair of opposed members are disposed so as to maintain a predetermined interval to wedge a plurality of flexible substrates in between to hold them in a shape of a curve each of the flexible substrates contacts both of the pair of opposed members, and wherein each of the plurality of flexible substrates is stored along and between adjacent ones of the plurality of holding members, and the adjacent ones of the plurality of holding members hold each of the plurality of flexible substrates.” For example and without limitation, Figs. 1(c) and 1(d) of the instant application illustrate that the vertically extending opposed members 3, 3a each directly contact the flexible substrates 4 so as to tightly hold the plurality of flexible substrates in the shape of the curve.

JP '074 fails to disclose or suggest the aforesaid features of claim 1. In JP '074, the substrate is merely place on the holding members, and the opposed members do not force the panel to bend/curve. This is because both opposed members are *not* in contact with the substrate in JP '074. This is apparent from the panel in Fig. 2 and the panel at the lower position in Fig. 1 of JP '074. While the panel does bend in Figs. 1-2 of JP '074, this bend is caused by the weight of the panels – not by the opposed members.

In the “Response to Arguments” section of the Office Action, it is alleged that the flexible substrate in JP '074 “contacts both of the pair of opposed members.” However, it can be seen from the panel in Fig. 2 of JP '074 and the panel at the lower position in Fig. 1 of JP '074 that neither panel is in contact with the opposed member (3a). The panel is merely in contact

with the panel holding members 4 – not both opposed members. Therefore, the condition that the opposed members contact the substrates and tightly hold them in a curved state is not disclosed or suggested in the cited art.

Moreover, in JP '074 the substrate is merely placed on the holding members and is not held by vertically adjacent holding members. In this respect, claim 1 requires that “each of the plurality of flexible substrates is stored along and between adjacent ones of the plurality of holding members, and the *adjacent ones of the plurality of holding members hold each of the plurality of flexible substrates.*” JP '074 fails to disclose or suggest this because the substrate in JP '074 is merely placed on the holding members, and vertically adjacent holding members do not work together to hold a given substrate.

Claim 25 defines over the cited art in a similar manner.

In view of the above, it is respectfully requested that all rejections be withdrawn. All claims are in condition for allowance. If any minor matter remains to be resolved, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned with regard to the same.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: 

Joseph A. Rhoa
Reg. No. 37,515

JAR:caj
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor
Arlington, VA 22203-1808
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100